United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea SPLOS/107

Meeting of States Parties

Distr.: General
2 September 2003

Original: English

Special Meeting
New York, 2 September 2003

Credentials of representatives to the Special Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea

Report of the Credentials Committee

Chairperson: Ms. Asenaca **Uluiviti** (Fiji)

1. On 11 June 2003, the Thirteenth Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea appointed a Credentials Committee consisting of the following nine members: Algeria, Czech Republic, Fiji, Kenya, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Trinidad and Tobago, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. On the basis of the understanding reached at the Thirteenth Meeting, the Committee retained its composition for the purposes of examining the credentials of the representatives to the Special Meeting of States Parties to the Convention.

2. The Committee held its meeting on 2 September 2003.

3. Ms. Asenaca Uluiviti (Fiji) was unanimously elected Chairperson.

4. The Committee had before it a memorandum by the Secretariat, dated 28 August 2003, on the status of credentials of representatives participating in the Special Meeting. The Secretary made a statement supplementing the memorandum with regard to including those credentials and communications received subsequent to the preparation of the memorandum.

5. As noted in paragraph 1 of the memorandum, as orally supplemented during the meeting, formal credentials issued by the Head of State or Government or by the Minister for Foreign Affairs or by a person authorized by either of them had been received by the Secretariat for the representatives of the following 84 States participating in the Special Meeting: Algeria, Australia, Austria, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belgium, Belize, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Saint

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Kitts and Nevis, Samoa, Serbia and Montenegro, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

6. As noted in paragraph 2 of the memorandum, as orally supplemented during the meeting, information concerning the appointment of representatives participating in the Special Meeting had been communicated by means of facsimile or in the form of letters or notes verbales from ministries, embassies, permanent missions to the United Nations or other government offices or authorities, or through local United Nations offices, by the following 20 States participating in the Special Meeting: Armenia, Bulgaria, Cameroon, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti, Egypt, Honduras, Mali, Mongolia, Nigeria, Philippines, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Togo, Tunisia, Tuvalu, Ukraine, and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

7. The Chairperson proposed that the Committee accept the credentials of all the representatives mentioned in the memorandum by the Secretariat, supplemented by the additional information provided by the Secretariat during the meeting, on the understanding that formal credentials of the representatives referred to in paragraph 2 of the Secretariat's memorandum would be communicated to the Secretariat as soon as possible. The following draft resolution was proposed by the Chairperson for adoption by the Committee:

> "*The Credentials Committee*,
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> "*Having examined* the credentials of the representatives to the Special Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea referred to in paragraphs 1 to 2 of the memorandum by the Secretariat dated 28 August 2003, supplemented by the additional information provided by the Secretariat during the meeting of the Credentials Committee,
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> "*Accepts* the credentials of the representatives concerned."

8. The draft resolution was adopted by the Committee without a vote.

9. Subsequently, the Chairperson proposed that the Committee recommend to the Special Meeting the adoption of a draft resolution (see para. 11). The proposal was adopted without a vote.

10. In the light of the foregoing, the present report is submitted to the Special Meeting.

Recommendation of the Credentials Committee

11. The Credentials Committee recommends to the Special Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea the adoption of the following draft resolution:

> "**Credentials of representatives to the Special Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea**
>
> "*The Special Meeting of States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea*
>
> "*Approves* the report of the Credentials Committee."